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Texas District Judge Orders Halt To Immigration Executive Actions

A federal district judge in Texas has ordered a temporary injunction to President Barack Obama's immigration executive actions through a 123 page [order](#). The order comes after 26 states filed a lawsuit challenging the deferred action program the President announced in November. This ruling could impact Congress' plan of action for funding the Department of Homeland Security through the stand alone funding legislation (HR 240). That legislation had previously been held up due to five amendments added to the legislation that would defund any activities associated with the President's immigration actions. With the courts weighing in, this could provide a way forward for bipartisan support for clean DHS funding before it is set to expire at the end of February.

The injunction orders the administration to halt creation of the new deferred deportation program called Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA), which would grant limited amnesty for parents of U.S. citizens and legal residents. The order also suspends the DHS program that would have expanded the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) set to begin accepting applications February 18th. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services has released [a statement](#) saying "The Court's order does not affect the existing DACA. Individuals may continue to come forward and request initial grant of DACA or renewal of DACA pursuant to the guidelines established in 2012."

The White House is expected to appeal the decision, and it is anticipated that a ruling from the Supreme Court will be required to ultimately resolve the issue. If you have any questions regarding progress of these developments, contact AAMVA's Director of Government Affairs, Cian Cashin, at

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